

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A method for the preparation of a cathode active material comprising:

mixing, milling and sintering materials for synthesis of a compound represented by the general formula Li_xFePO_4 , where $0 < x \leq 1$, and adding a carbon material ~~to the resulting mass~~ at an optional time point in the course of said mixing, milling and sintering;

employing Li_3PO_4 [,] and $\text{Fe}_3(\text{PO}_4)_2$ or its hydrate[s] $\text{Fe}_3(\text{PO}_4)_2 \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$ [thereof], where n denotes the number of hydrates, as the materials for synthesis of said Li_xFePO_4 ; and

~~setting the temperature of a product from said sintering to 305°C or less when said product from said sintering is exposed to atmosphere. setting the~~ oxygen concentration in a sintering atmosphere to greater than zero, but less than or equal to 1012 ppm in volume ~~or less~~ at the time point of sintering.

2. (Currently amended) A method for the preparation of a non-aqueous electrolyte cell including a cathode having a cathode active material, an anode having an anode active material and a non-aqueous electrolyte, wherein

in preparing said cathode active material, sintering starting materials for synthesis of a compound represented by the general formula Li_xFePO_4 , where $0 < x \leq 1$, are mixed, milled and a carbon material is added ~~to the resulting mass~~ at an optional time point in the course of said mixing, milling and sintering;

Li_3PO_4 [,] and $\text{Fe}_3(\text{PO}_4)_2$ or its hydrate[s] $\text{Fe}_3(\text{PO}_4)_2 \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$ [thereof], where n denotes the number of hydrates, are used as the starting materials for synthesis of said Li_xFePO_4 ; and

~~the temperature of a product from said sintering is set to 305°C or less when said product from said sintering is exposed to atmosphere~~ the oxygen concentration in a sintering

atmosphere is set to greater than zero, but less than or equal to 1012 ppm in volume ~~or less~~ at the time point of sintering.

3. (Currently amended) The method for the preparation of a non-aqueous electrolyte cell according to claim 2 wherein said non-aqueous electrolyte comprising a non-aqueous electrolyte ~~including~~ includes a dissolved electrolyte in a non-aqueous solvent.

4. (Original) The method for the preparation of a non-aqueous electrolyte cell according to claim 2 wherein said non-aqueous electrolyte is a solid electrolyte.

5. (Original) The method for the preparation of a non-aqueous electrolyte cell according to claim 2 wherein said anode is a material capable of doping/undoping lithium.

6. (Original) The method for the preparation of a non-aqueous electrolyte cell according to claim 2 wherein said anode is a carbon material.